

Message Text

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PAGE 01 USUN N 03649 030314Z

17

ACTION IO-14

INFO OCT-01 EA-11 ISO-00 AF-10 ARA-16 EUR-25 NEA-14 RSC-01

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INFO AMEMBASSY PHNOM PENH

AMEMBASSY TOKYO

AMEMBASSY BANGKOK

AMEMBASSY JAKARTA

AMEMBASSY KUALA LUMPUR

AMEMBASSY SINGAPORE

AMEMBASSY MANILA

AMEMBASSY CANBERRA

AMEMBASSY WELLINGTON

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TAGS: UNGA CB TH

SUBJ: KHMER AT 29TH UNGA: THAI FONMIN CHARUNPHAN'S GENERAL

DEBATE SPEECH

FOLLOWING IS EXCERPT FROM THAI FONMIN CHARUNPHAN'S GENERAL
DEBATE SPEECH 1 OCTOBER WHICH DEALS WITH KHMER:

QUOTE UNLIKE THE SITUATION IN LAOS WHERE A COMMON DESIRE
AND DETERMINATION DISPLAYED BY ALL LAO SIDES ENABLED THE PARTIES
TO ARRIVE AT A PEACEFUL SETTLEMENT OF THEIR PROBLEM, THE
POLITICAL CONFLICT IN THE KHMER REPUBLIC REMAINS UNRESOLVED.
THE TRAGIC SUFFERING ENDURED BY THE KHMER PEOPLE IS A
SOURCE OF DEEP CONCERN NOT ONLY TO THAILAND BUT ALSO TO ALL
OTHER STATES IN THE REGION. WE IN THAILAND WHO HAVE CLOSE
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PAGE 02 USUN N 03649 030314Z

HISTORICAL AND CULTURAL TIES WITH THE KHMERS HAVE NO OTHER

WISH BUT TO SEE PEACE AND TRANQUILITY RETURN TO THE COUNTRY.

THAILAND'S BASIC APPROACH TOWARDS THE QUESTION OF CAMBODIAN REPRESENTATION HAS NOT CHANGED. WE CONTINUE TO MAINTAIN THAT THE KHMER PEOPLE THEMSELVES SHOULD BE ALLOWED TO SOLVE THEIR OWN POLITICAL PROBLEMS PEACEFULLY, FREE FROM OUTSIDE INTERVENTION IN WHATEVER FORM. SUCH POLITICAL SETTLEMENT SHOULD BE REACHED BY THE INDIGENOUS PARTIES CONCERNED AND NOTHING SHOULD BE DONE IN THE UNITED NATIONS WHICH MAY PREJUDGE THE DECISION OF THE KHMER PEOPLE AND WHICH MAY PROLONG THE SUFFERING AND THE LOSS OF LIVES AND PROPERTY, INCLUDING CULTURAL TREASURES, IN THE KHMER REPUBLIC.

OUR VIEWS ARE NOT BASED ON PERSONAL PREFERENCE FOR THIS OR THAT PERSONALITY. NOR DO WE CONCERN OURSELVES WITH THE POLITICAL IDEOLOGY OF THIS OR THAT LEADERSHIP. ON THE CONTRARY, THE ATTITUDE OF MY GOVERNMENT IS GOVERNED BY HISTORICAL FACTS, ACTUAL SITUATION ON THE GROUND AND OUR FIRM ADHERENCE TO THE PRINCIPLE OF NON-INTERFERENCE IN THE INTERNAL AFFAIRS OF A STATE.

IT IS A HISTORICAL FACT THAT THE LEADER OF THE FORMER GOVERNMENT IN CAMBODIA WAS REMOVED FROM POWER NOT BY FORCE BUT BY A VOTE IN THE NATIONAL PARLIAMENT IN ACCORDANCE WITH ITS OWN CONSTITUTION.

IT IS ALSO A FACT THAT THE PRESENT LEADERSHIP CAME INTO POWER NOT BY USE OF FORCE BUT THROUGH CONSTITUTIONAL MEANS.

THE ACTUAL SITUATION TELLS US THAT THE PRESENT AND LEGITIMATE LEADERSHIP IN THE KHMER REPUBLIC HAS EFFECTIVE CONTROL AND SUPPORT OF THE MAJOR PORTION OF ITS POPULATION. THE SEAT OF ITS GOVERNMENT CONTINUES TO BE PHNOM PENH, THE CAPITAL OF THE COUNTRY. ON THE OTHER HAND, THE OTHER LEADERSHIP, WHICH IS SAID TO CONTROL SOME PARTS OF THE COUNTRY, IS A GOVERNMENT-IN-EXILE WITH ITS HEADQUARTERS IN THE CAPITAL OF ANOTHER STATE.

IT IS THE CONSIDERED VIEW OF MY GOVERNMENT THAT THE UNITED NATIONS HAS NEITHER THE AUTHORITY NOR THE JURISDICTION

UNCLASSIFIED

PAGE 03 USUN N 03649 030314Z

TO EXERCISE SELF-DETERMINATION FOR THE KHMER PEOPLE. THE CHOICE IS THEIRS AND THEIRS ALONE. ANY UNITED NATIONS ACTION WHICH IS TANTAMOUNT TO A CHANGE OF NATIONAL LEADERSHIP IN THE KHMER REPUBLIC IS A SHEER INTERFERENCE IN THE DOMESTIC AFFAIRS OF THE KHMER PEOPLE AND WOULD CREATE SUCH AN UNDESIRABLE PRECEDENT THAT A GOVERNMENT-IN-EXILE OF ANY INDEPENDENT STATE MAY CHALLENGE THE LEGALLY-CONSTITUTED GOVERNMENT WITHIN THE STATE ITSELF.

INSTEAD, THE UNITED NATIONS MAY DO WELL TO RESPOND TO THE APPEAL
MADE BY THE GOVERNMENT OF THE KHMER REPUBLIC IN PHNOM
PENH ON 9 JULY 1974, BY GIVING SUPPORT TO ALL KHMERS,
WHATEVER SIDE THEY ARE ON, ASSISTING THEM IN BRINGING ABOUT
THE TALKS, WITHOUT PERIOR CONDITIONS, WITH A VIEW TO ACHIEVING
A JUST AND LASTING PEACE GUARANTEEING THE INDEPENDENCE,
NEUTRALITY AND TERRITORIAL INTEGRITY OF THE KHMER NATION.

THAILAND, MR. PRESIDENT, WILL CONTINUE ITS POLICY OF GOOD
NEIGHBOURLINESS AND PEACEFUL COOPERATION WITH ALL STATES
IN THE AREA, IRRESPECTIVE OF THEIR POLITICAL INCLINATION OR
ECONOMIC ORIENTATION. SECURITY INTEREST OF EACH STATE IN THE
REGION CAN ONLY BE SAFEGUARDED BY STRICT COMPLIANCE WITH THE
FIVE PRINCIPLES OF PEACEFUL CO-EXISTENCE. IN THIS RESPECT,
THAILAND WILL NOT BE FOUND WANTING. UNQUOTE
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